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IMPORMATION REPORT

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OOUNTRY	Samania	•	DATE DISER 2 Wa	y 51
SUBJECT	The Banat Region (Timisours. Corarsobes. and Lugoj); Recruits:		NO. OF PAGES 3	
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- 1. The Banat region is rich from an agricultural end industrial point of view. It has three principal cities: Timisoara, Lugoj, 60 kilometers east of Timisoara, and Caransebee. 40 kilometers east of Lugoj. These cities are connected by the Bucharest-Timisoara reilroad that continues towards the Yugoslav frontier through points Jimbolia and Curtici on the Hungerian border. Lugoj is an important railroad center that connects Banat and Transylvania through the Ilia station, and Timisoara indirectly through Buzias.
- 2. Caransebes is rising in importance because the rew administration of the region of Severin has moved to Caransebes, at the foot of the Banat mountains. A large depot is being constructed at Caransebes and the airfield is undergoing repairs by Rumanians. The airfield is frequently inspected by Soviet technicians.
- 3. Near the Fabric station (the east station of Timisoara) there is a Sorfet regiment whose tanks, trucks, and guns can be seen from any point when passing by train through the station. Towards the northern section of the city the Soviets have constructed a large airfield with hangars canouflaged in a forest. A short distance from the sirfield and near the mailroad station is the largest GFR (Caile Ferate Romane Rumanian State Reilroad) depots in Rumania.
- 4. In the forests between Timisoars and Lugoj there are Soviet and Russman regiments (unramed). During the spring of 1950 about five hundred tanks and trucks with rocket fixtures passed through Caransebes toward Timisoara. The peasants in the surrounding areas said that the tanks stopped in the environs of Grabati, Deta, and Jimbolia, mainly in the forest areas.
- 5. The "circulation" of Soviet troops in Timisoara is increasing: the populace is not permitted out of doors after 8:00 p.m. The Soviet headquarters in Timisoara occupy the best buildings, and Soviet troops are hidden in the forests or in houses in the suburbs of the city. Besides their daily training, the Soviets also train the Rumenian troops.

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- 6. In the fall of 1950 the town of Lugosul Nou (New Lugoj) was constructed, where five Army divisions with tanks, and motor boats are located. The new town is northwest of Lugoj and is supplied by the railroad that connects Transylvania and Lugoj. Lugosul Nou is about one to two kilometers from the Lugoj station after crossing two steel bridges that cross the Timis River, Lately a new regiment camped northeast of the new town, and a frontier guard regiment is located in the suburbs of the town. All these troops hold daily maneuvers and target practice. In December 1950 they dug deep individual Soviet style trenches, along the Lugoj-Timisoara railroad line.
- 7. In December 1950 amounition was transported daily in the direction of Mimisoara from a large amounition depot one kilometer scutheast of Lagod.
- 8. In December 1950 a Soviet Commandatura moved into the Administratia Financiara (Internal Revenue) building at Lugoj.
- 9. Several factories in the Lugoj area are as follows:
 - a. The cottom factory of Lugoj only makes bandages that are exported to the Soviet Union. The factory is located two kilometers west of Lugoj, and it has about 1,400 employees.
 - b. At the silk factory of Lugoj silk cotton is made only for parachates. The factory is northwest of the city near the new city.
- 10. Lugoj Hospital. The Lugoj hospital is located in the western section of Lugoj in the middle of a large park. It is now a state hospital with 1,200 to 1,300 beds. It was rumored that half the hospital would become military. The hospital has about twenty doctors and 148 to 150 administrative personnel.

The hospital is directed by Dr. Dan Bacaloglu and Vasile Gasparini. The following Communist personnel are in the hospital: Bacalogiu, Gasparini (above), Horia Sabin, Dr. Liviu Stoicovici, Dr. Nicolne Negrilescu, Dr. Casandra Lupescu, Dr. Bubi Prosteanu, Dr. Ionel Radoslav, and Dr. Gheorghe Ismandi.

- 11. Rumanian Army recruits consists of young party members of the UNM (Labor Youth). They are the so-called "troops of the psople" who can be trusted. In the future they will merge with the regular troops, to spy on them and follow their activities individually. In order not to exceed the number of troops fixed by the Peace Treaty inductions are made in three series, by inducting three contingents at a time (19-20-21 year olds) in three series a year. For example in 1950 they inducted the first series in June, the second in November, and the third between 1 15 February 1951. In this manner each year three old contingents complete their military service, and three new ones are inducted to give the impression that only the permissible number of troops are armed.
- 12. The resistance movement is growing and clashes have occurred in the region of Teregore, and Luncavita (Severin County). Persons acquainted with partisans are arrested or their families are arrested. About thirty to forty acquaintances of one partisan may be arrested and investigated. Investigations may be delayed, however, for a period of six months or longer.
- 13. The harvest in the Banat region was good in 1950, but the tax quota was so heavy that even the most productive soil could not meet the tax. Harvest quotas were difficult to meet which resulted in many arrests.
- 14. Near the silk factory of Lugoj there is a large slaughter house where poultry and cattle are slaughtered in large numbers. Frozen meat is exported be the Soviet Union. All cereals and other products gathered in the Banat region is sent to Constanta and from there by ship to the Soviet Union.
- 15. In June 1950 bombs were unloaded from trains at Lugoj and transported by trucks to an airfield northwest of the city.

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- 16. Orders from Bucharest for the Security and Militia and the Comitete Provizoria (Provizional Committees) are brought to Lugoj daily by plane. When the plane flies over Lugoj it circles the Security building and the Soviet Commandatura three times before landing.
- R7. In January 1951 the authorities began registering all German-Rumanians in the Lugoj area. It is rumored that they will be sent to work in various projects in the interior of Rumania.